

4. APPLICATION: What should all of this suggest to us???

1. Whenever we allow the desires of the flesh to over-rule the desires of Heaven in our lives--we become profane.
2. Whenever we can find time and money for everything we want to do in the world about us, but never any time or money to do Lord's Will, we become profane.
3. When we can go everyplace we desire throughout the week, but cannot attend worship Wed night--sold our birthright
4. When we leave for out of town places over the week-end, with no desire or intent to worship God--we have shown that we want A MESS OF RED POTTAGE, instead of birthright
5. When we can find money to buy whatever we want to buy, but can never find more than \$1, or perhaps \$5 to give to the Lord, leaning toward that mess of red pottage.

CONCLUSION:

1. The story of Esau has been recorded for our benefit, profit.
2. We need to ponder his mistakes, and be warned not to follow.
3. Do not walk in the steps of "profane" Esau.
4. He latter regretted his mistake, but could not retain birthright
5. One day we must stand before Jehovah in judgment---  
HOW SAD IF WE FIND we sold our spiritual birthright for  
a MESS OF RED POTTAGE---FLESHLY SATISFACTIONS:
6. Unlike Esau, You can do something about it today.  
May we see the danger of the flesh, and prepare ourselves  
to live in heaven, to enjoy our birthright.
7. Prov. 4:25-27---Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of  
it are the issues of life....."
8. WHAT ABOUT YOUR SPIRITUAL BIRTHRIGHT??? HAVE YOU BEEN BORN  
AGAIN??? *In 3:3,5; '84 1:22,23*  
WHICH DO YOU VALUE THE MOST???---SPIRITUAL BIRTHRIGHT OR  
MESS OF RED POTTAGE?????????

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## DON'T BE PROFANE

### Introduction:

1. Heb 12:16--Esau is described as a PROFANE person.
2. Heb 12:14--"Follow after holiness (sanctification, RV)" and avoid being defiled like wicked Esau.
3. Esau, guilty of numerous evils, but the greatest was being profane. ---Gen. 26, 27, 36.

### I. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE PROFANE?

1. To hold God, His Word, and His Divine appointments with contempt.  
To be without reverence for sacred things. *to count holy things as common*  
To tread under foot and view with an unhallowed attitude the things of Jehovah.
2. Esau--sold his birthright--called "profane". WHY????  
To understand--must recognize privilege of firstborn.

### II. PECULIAR RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES INHERITED BY THE FIRSTBORN:

1. He received a double portion: Deut. 21:17, double portion of the inheritance--twice as much as other sons.
2. He received the position of priesthood: Num 8:14-18,  
The tribe of Levi was appointed to priesthood and taken in lieu of the firstborn. Indicates that before Sinia the firstborn served as priest,
3. Received a rank of authority: Gen. 27:29,  
The firstborn received a rank of authority in the government of the family like that of the father.  
This was a position of honor next to the parent.  
Some received authority over a kingdom--Jehoram, 2Chron 21:1
4. Received (In Esau's case) a position in the bloodline of the Messiah: Abraham, Isaac, + Esau (Jacob)  
Esau would have been honored in patriarchal line of the promise made to Abraham toward Christ through whom all nations were to be blessed. Gen 22:18, Gal 3:16  
All of these rights belonged to Esau and he hold them for ONE MESS OF RED POTTAGE!!!

### III. THINGS TO OBSERVE ABOUT ESAU'S SALE:

1. He traded a great and lifelong good for the immediate satisfaction of a present desire.  
Esau, like many today, was more interested in the "here and now" than in the "sweet by and by"  
So concerned with the flesh, willing to give up birthright.
2. He traded his spiritual privileges for sensuous satisfactions  
Shows Esau did not have proper appreciation for the God given privileges that were his.  
Misplaced values, caused him to lose everything valuable

3. Traded with a crafty brother, a maneuvering mother, who capitalized on his weakness. Counted birthright so light he allowed another to make spoil of his future.  
*Esau didn't want to sell his birthright with the same in - no proper esteem for his birthright*

### IV. IS THERE A LESSON IN THIS FOR US???

1. Can we learn from the mistakes of Esau? Lesson for us???  
Some say, "I don't have birthright to sell so what does it mean to me?"-- True, BUT WE HAVE A GREATER BIRTHRIGHT
2. We have peculiar rights, privileges as a Child of God and *By faith + sell it not* THESE CAN BE SOLD. I can barter my soul, you can sell your spiritual character, your good name for even LESS than a MESS OF RED POTTAGE. Surely we can learn here.
3. We must learn to treat our "spiritual birthright" with REVERENCE. WE MUST NOT DESPISE THE THINGS OF GOD  
WE CANNOT AFFORD TO BE PROFANE!!!

### V. THREE LESSONS TO LEARN:

#### 1. LEARN TO CURB OUR STRONG IMPULSES:

A failure to do this got Esau in trouble, ruin of many to. Many young people (boys and girls) are in trouble because they did not control their strong impulses.  
Many countless homes suffer throughout this land because someone failed to curb their strong impulses.  
STRIFE is sometimes brought inside the precious body of Christ simply because brethren have NOT MATURED enough to restrain their strong impulses.  
What a shame!! What is the remedy??  
STRONG IMPULSES CAN BE CURED BY REASON AND CONSCIENCE.  
When tempted to act hastily on strong impulses, take time to reason in light of God's Word.  
Weigh the matter, consider the consequences, look for the facts--Give conscience time to work.  
ABOVE ALL--Don't despise your "spiritual birthright". Profane Esau did, and it cost him everything precious

#### 2. LEARN THE MEANING OF TRUE VALUE:

We need to learn to maintain the proper relationship between the present and the future.  
We need to discern between temporary and the abiding.  
Profane Esau was so desirous of a temporary thing RIGHT THEN that he forfeited the abiding things of future.  
This attitude continues to ruin men, women, boys, girls.  
Don't allow this immature, childish spirit to lead you.  
Have you contrasted the present with the future  
Where are your values??? Can see by what you labor to obtain. By what you strive for.

#### 3. LEARN TO KEEP THE SENSUOUS SECONDARY TO THE SPIRITUAL:

Let the "spiritual man" control the "fleshly man".  
Keep the proper one in control, on top at all times.  
Jer. 10:23--"Not in man that walketh to direct own steps."  
When we seek to direct our own steps, we become profane.  
Simply means we have not held the wisdom of God in reverence, but become profane.